

Screen 810 shows the results of a filtering operation on the directory using the letter "B", and therefore includes records from the directory that begin with the letter "B". Additional records that begin with "B" may be available, and may be accessed by scrolling. The filter is applied to multiple fields, so that the displayed records include those having a first name beginning with "B" (Biff Henderson), as well as those having a last name beginning with "B" (John Birch, CJ Bush). In one embodiment, records having a company name, or initials, or other relevant field that begins with "B" would also be displayed. The first telephone number in the first displayed record is selected (as indicated by highlight 604), although in alternative embodiments a different record might be selected.

[0147] Screen 810 also includes lookup string field 605 that displays the lookup string, consisting of the characters entered thus far. Accordingly, a "b" is currently displayed, indicating that the user has entered the letter "B". As the user enters additional characters, field 605 helps to remind the user of the criteria on which the directory is being filtered, and also reduces user confusion when he or she backspaces and types additional characters. One skilled in the art will recognize that lookup string field 605 is not required, and the set of displayed contact records 601 may offer sufficient feedback to the user. Accordingly, in an alternative embodiment, lookup string field 605 is not displayed, or the display of lookup string field 605 is configurable by the user.

[0148] Still attempting to zero in on "Birch, John", the user now presses the "I" key. At this point, screen 820 is displayed, as depicted in Fig. 8C. Screen

820 shows the results of the filtering operation on the directory using the lookup string "BI", and therefore now includes records that begin with "BI". Again, additional records that begin with "BI" may be accessible via scrolling. Now, two records are displayed: Biff Henderson (since the first name begins with "BI") and John Birch (since the last name begins with "BI"). Lookup string field 605 now shows "bi".

[0149] Next, the user presses the "R" key. At this point, screen 630 is displayed, as depicted in Fig. 8D. Screen 630 shows the results of the filtering operation on the directory using the lookup string "BIR", and therefore now includes records that begin with "BIR". Again, additional records that begin with "BIR" may be accessible via scrolling. However, in the example shown, only one record matches the filter: John Birch. Thus, John Birch's first listed telephone number is now highlighted 601. Lookup string field 605 now shows "bir".

[0150] Now that the user has successfully pinpointed the record he or she was interested in, he or she presses space bar 207 or enter key 204 to dial the highlighted number 601. Alternatively, the user may tap the number on the screen (with a stylus or finger), or may press a jog rocker control (not shown).

[0151] Referring now to Fig. 8E, there is shown screen 640, which contain various user interface elements that are relevant to a call in progress. The name and number of the called party are displayed 641, as well as an indication that the call is active 644 and a call timer 642. Additional controls 643 are provided, for operations such as hang up, hold, extra digits, or keypad.

[0152] Referring now to Figs. 9A through 9D, there are shown screen shots depicting an example of a direct-dial operation according to one embodiment of the present invention, where a directory filtering operation is initially assumed. The screen shots of Figs. 9A through 9D correspond to the method described above in connection with Fig. 3A. In the example shown, the user is attempting to dial the number 730-788-5457.

[0153] Since the user is attempting to dial 730-788-5457 he or she first presses the key having a numeric secondary value of "7". At this point, screen 900 is displayed, as depicted in Fig. 9A. Since the primary value of the "7" key is the letter "B", screen 900 shows the results of a filtering operation on the directory using the letter "B", including records from the directory that begin with the letter "B". Additional records that begin with "B" may be available, and may be accessed by scrolling. The filter is applied to multiple fields, so that the displayed records include those having a first name beginning with "B" (Biff Henderson), as well as those having a last name beginning with "B" (John Birch, CJ Bush). In one embodiment, records having a company name, or initials, or other relevant field that begins with "B" would also be displayed. The first telephone number in the first displayed record is selected (as indicated by highlight 604), although in alternative embodiments other records might be selected. Screen 900 also includes lookup string field 605 that displays the lookup string, consisting of the primary values for the keystrokes entered thus far. Accordingly, a "b" is currently displayed, indicating that the user has entered the letter "B". Again, in an